

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

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DRAFTED BY: ARA/CEN/BZE: GAGOWEN:RP

APPROVED BY: ARA/CEN: KLAZAR (DRAFT)

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R 230302Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL BELIZE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 252083

FOLLOWING REPEAT PORT AU PRINCE 2649 ACTION SECSTATE INFO GUATEMALA
KINGSTON LONDON AND MEXICO 21 OCT 75

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT AU PRINCE 2649

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: PBOR, BH, GT, HA, MX, OAS

SUBJECT: BELIZE-GUATEMALA DISPUTE: HAITI

REF: MEXICO 9081

GOH PUBLIC WORKS SECRETARY PIERRE PETIT APPARENTLY REFLECTED
THE SENTIMENTS PREVAILING AT FOREIGN AFFAIRS CONCERNING THE
FUTURE OF BELIZE (REFTEL). FOREIGN AFFAIRS UNDER SECRETARY
GERARD DORCELY SAID PRIVATELY OCT 16 THAT THE MOST LIKELY
OUTCOME OF THE DISPUTE WAS INDEPENDENCE FOR BELIZE. HE PREDICTED
INDEPENDENCE WOULD NOT EVEN POST MUCH OF A PROBLEM FOR THE
OAS, SINCE GUATEMALA WOULD FIND IT HARD TO OVERCOME THE PRINCIPLE
OF SELF-DETERMINATION. DORCELY SAID HE BELIEVED THAT THIS OUT-
COME IS ALSO FAVORED BY MEXICO, WHICH HAS ITS OWN CLAIMS TO
BELIZE TO COUNTERACT THOSE OF GUATEMALA. DORCELY ALSO CLAIMED
THAT RACIALLY THE PEOPLE OF BELIZE ARE PREDOMINATELY BLACK,
AND WOULD RESIST ANY TAKEOVER BY LATIN AMERICANS,
PREFERRING INSTEAD INDEPENDENCE BUTTRESSED BY CONTINUED
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CLOSE CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC LINKS WITH THE BLACK, ENGLISH-

SPEAKING CARIBBEAN NATIONS.

ISHAM

UNQUOT. INGERSOLL

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To: BELIZE
Type: TE
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